



A 3275-2
10/19/81

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 15, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 10 totaled an estimated 18.9 billion ton-miles, 0.7 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 41 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 733.1 billion ton-miles, 1.8 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 10 totaled 432,652 cars, 4.3 percent below 1980, and 4.2 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 3.8 percent in the East, 1.9 percent in the South, and 6.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, coal and metallic ores were up 15.2 percent and 19.0 percent respectively, and coke loadings showed a gain of 34.2 percent.

Seventeen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended October 3 totaled 35,923 cars, up 2.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 67,428 trailers and/or containers, up 8.7 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of the year was 1,304,908 cars, 1.8 percent higher than last year, and 2,367,283 trailers and/or containers, 1.5 percent higher than last year.

(more)

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Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/10/81:

	Loadings in Week ended October 10, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980		Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	24,689	D	10,190	29.2	D	120
Other farm products	5,568	D	367	6.2	I	636
Metallic ores	30,012	I	4,792	19.0	D	2,288
Coal	133,640	I	17,678	15.2	D	4,198
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,861	D	2,551	16.6	I	316
Nonmetallic minerals	11,886	D	5,760	32.6	D	1,342
Grain mill products	14,418	D	2,719	15.9	D	198
Food and kindred products	15,169	D	2,820	15.7	D	216
Primary forest products	18,209	D	1,811	9.0	D	301
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,021	D	2,428	28.7	D	1,136
Pulp, paper and allied products	18,220	D	1,026	5.3	D	1,774
Chemicals and allied products	24,232	D	4,699	16.2	D	1,711
Petroleum products	5,148	D	654	11.3	I	343
Stone, clay and glass products	13,057	D	2,619	16.7	D	411
Coke	6,236	I	1,590	34.2	D	113
Metals and products	13,733	D	959	6.5	D	3,040
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,888	D	3,815	20.4	I	32
Waste and scrap materials	10,766	D	2,169	16.8	D	889
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,123	D	1,236	10.9	D	332
All other carloads	43,565	I	2,530	6.2	D	2,128
LCL traffic	211	D	19	8.3	D	40
Total Cars Loaded	432,652	D	19,252	4.3	D	18,910

Corresponding week of 1980

451,904

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>% Change</u>	
Total Cars Loaded (41 weeks)	17,242,698	17,854,906	D	3.4

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

40 Weeks cumulative	714.2	701.7	I	1.8
Week ended October 10	18.9	18.8	I	0.7
41 Weeks cumulative	733.1	720.5	I	1.8